

# TAX REFUNDS WON BY 2,000 AT KOHLER

Sheboygan, Wis. — Two thousand workers who walked the picket line at the Kohler Co. here and received strike benefits from the Auto Workers will share more than \$1 million in federal income tax refunds.

The Internal Revenue Service's district office in Milwaukee said the decision to refund taxes paid on strike assistance given by the union was based on a test case the UAW won in the Supreme Court last year.

Refunds up to \$2,000  
The refund checks, ranging as high as \$2,000 in some cases, will be mailed to claimants within the next two months, the IRS said. With the help of their union, the

Kohler strikers had submitted refund claims which were held in abeyance while the test case was moving through the courts.

Last month, in another ruling based on the Supreme Court decision in the Kohler case, the government said it would not contest a test suit brought by the Communications Workers which is expected to pave the way for refunds to nearly 1,500 CWA members who received strike benefits during 1956.

In both the UAW and the CWA cases, benefits were paid to strikers on the basis of individual need — one of the criteria used by the Internal Revenue Service in deciding whether benefits are essen-

## Posner Wins Brotherhood Award



During Brotherhood Week, Reverend Martin Luther King, noted leader in interracial equality and Mr. Hamilton Posner of New York, well known manufacturer of cosmetics, received Brotherhood Awards given by the Chicago Conference of Brotherhood for the work done by them in bettering interracial relations. Dr. King and Mr. Posner were the two persons selected for these awards who live outside of Chicago. These awards were given to them at a dinner at which Dr. King was principal guest speaker.

A tremendous dinner audience was held spellbound for more than an hour and at his conclusion Dr. King was given a standing ovation which lasted at least five minutes.

In his remarks, Dr. King made many references to the wonderful work that the Posner Company is doing and has always done to further better interracial relations.

## Kennedy's Economic Aide Warn Of 'Chronic Slack' In Jobs, Production

Dr. Walter W. Heller, chairman of Pres. Kennedy's Council of Economic Advisers, has told Congress an economic upturn "may come in the next few months."

"But I want to emphasize," Heller told the Joint Economic Committee, "that if it develops it will be just the beginning of the end of the recession."

Heller viewed the current recession as a symptom of basic trouble. More serious in the long run, he told the committee, is the "chronic slack" in jobs, production and the potential rate of growth — "the growing gap between what we can produce and what we do produce."

"Whenever it occurs," Heller said, "the reversal of the recession is only the beginning, not the end, of the task of restoring momentum to the American economy."

Heller, a former University of Minnesota economics professor said that even if the gross national product in the last quarter of 1961 hit an all-time record of 3.5 percent above 1960's fourth quarter — an \$18 billion gain — "the unemployment problem would still be of

tially a "gift" and not taxable or whether payments are to be considered taxable income.

Earlier this year, the IRS announced a modification of its policy on taxation of strike benefits, declaring it would exempt assistance given to strikers in cases presenting facts "substantially like" those in the Kohler test case.

**6-3 Decision**  
The Supreme Court, in a 6-3 decision last June, ruled that benefits paid to Allen Kaiser, a non-union member who joined the strike called by the UAW in 1954, could be considered as "generosity" related to need and "not as a recompense for striking."

The case reached the Supreme Court after a trial court judge had overruled a federal jury which had agreed with the UAW's claim that the benefits paid to Kaiser were not taxable. An appellate court also reversed the judge and upheld the jury's verdict.

IRS, in adopting the broad criteria of the court decision, also stated that tax exemption could still be granted if benefits were restricted to union members. It said each case would have to be considered separately in relation to the form and amount of benefits, other income of the individual, conditions of payment and availability of public assistance.

An attorney for UAW Local 833 at Kohler, Max Raskin, said the union hoped that Congress will specifically exempt all strike benefits from taxation so that other workers would not have to fight in the courts to get their refund claims upheld.

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# Tan Topics



CONTINENTAL FEATURES

## CAREY ASKS CLEANUP IN BUSINESS ADVISORY UNIT

Pres. James B. Carey of the Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers has called on Commerce Sec. Luther H. Hodges to strip his department's Business Advisory Council of its functions if it fails to remove Ralph J. Cordiner, head of the board of General Electric Co., which was one of the principals in the price-fixing, bid-rigging anti-trust conspiracy.

Carey took sharp exception to a reported statement by Hodges that

he will let the Business Advisory Council itself decide whether Cordiner should continue as chairman.

"I find it difficult to understand your apparent belief that you can wash your hands of this affair," Carey wrote.

Quoting a statement by Pres. Kennedy that agencies of the government will be concerned "about the problems of conflicts of interest and monopolistic practices conducted in the American business community," Carey said the Commerce Dept. is "clearly" one of the agencies which should be so concerned.

He added that if the Business Advisory Council "should flaunt its disdain for public opinion by refusing to remove Cordiner from his office as chairman, as well as removing his company and any other electrical company which was involved in this conspiracy from membership in the council, then we believe it is your duty to deprive the council of all prerogatives it may have as an advisory body, and all privileges which it has acquired as a result of its semi-official status."

## 7 Graphic Art Unions Draft Plan for Unity

An inter-union committee began drafting a plan for labor unity in the printing, paper and related industries at its first meeting and has scheduled another two-day session, April 11-12, also in Washington.

The 14-man group representing seven unions chose Ellis T. Baker, director of research and information for the Newspaper Guild, as chairman.

The committee is an arm of the Presidents' Committee of the Allied Printing & Related Trades, formed a year ago by leaders of international unions in the graphic arts industry to coordinate their activities and to explore plans for eventual unity. The president also have a legislative subcommittee which is campaigning in the states

The President gave the committee the immediate tasks of forging recommendations on "policies designed to ensure that American products are competitive in world markets," and to study "the benefits and problems created by automation and other technological advances."

Kennedy directed all executive departments and agencies of the federal government "to cooperate with the committee and to furnish it such information and assistance as it may require."

**Says State Action Needed**  
Goldberg, designated by Kennedy to serve as chairman of the advisory committee for the first year, told the state labor officials that "comparable action" at the state level was needed because "the problems are so varied and so complex" that there is need for more than merely a national group.

Communications Workers Pres. Joseph A. Biernie hailed Kennedy's action in creating the advisory commission and pledged his union's full cooperation. "Labor-management relations in this period of economic change," he said, "need the carefully considered recommendations of a group of leading Americans such as comprise the committee."

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## Church Group Endorses CWA In NLRB Vote

New York—Support of the Communications Workers in a runoff election, now being conducted among 18,000 plant employees of the New York Telephone Co., has been recommended by the executive board of the Association of Catholic Trade Unionists.

In a statement, the board noted that New York plant employees took the "first major step in breaking away from ineffective company unionism" when a majority voted for AFL-CIO unions in a recent election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board.

"It is our earnest hope," the ACTU board said, "that in the runoff election the step will be completed by an overwhelming vote for bona fide national unionism within the AFL-CIO."

The statement said the ACTU board is convinced that, only by combining the resources of the CWA and the united labor movement can New York plant employees "free themselves from the domination of a powerful nationwide corporation."

In the first NLRB election, union-favoring employees split their votes between CWA and the Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The runoff election, by mailed ballots, began Feb. 17 and will con-

and Canadian provinces for laws to ban the recruiting and employment of professional strikebreakers.

Baker said the working committee named to prepare a specific blueprint for unity will submit its report directly to the Presidents' Committee and will issue no interim statements.

continue through the first week in March.

ACTU sponsors trade union schools and forums. In 1960 it awarded its Quadragesimo Anno medal to CWA Pres. Joseph Beirne for his work as an active unionist, and for his "peaceful and fruitful efforts" to advance the economic and social status of telephone workers.

"You never can tell about men," said one gal. "Either they're so slow you want to scream, or so fast you have to."

## CAPITOL NEWS MISSISSIPPI

Wise Use of Basic Resources

Mississippi's wealth and advancement, as well as that of the nation as a whole, are due in large measure to natural resources such as fertile soil, ample water supply, great forests, mineral deposits and abundant wildlife. These resources must be used wisely if Mississippi is to enjoy continued progress. In view of mounting demands, it is essential that natural resources as forests and ranges, lakes and streams, shorelines, and wildlife be utilized for as many purposes as possible.

The Peanut Has Many Uses

The peanut has many uses. It is the basis for many cosmetics, shaving creams, and hair lotions; and peanut oil is widely used in chemistry and in commercial enterprises. As matters now stand, peanut production is not exactly a short cut to wealth, but Mississippi's soil and climate are most favorable for this phase of agriculture. Peanut production is a good source of cash income for Mississippi growers, although outranked by several other states in total volume.

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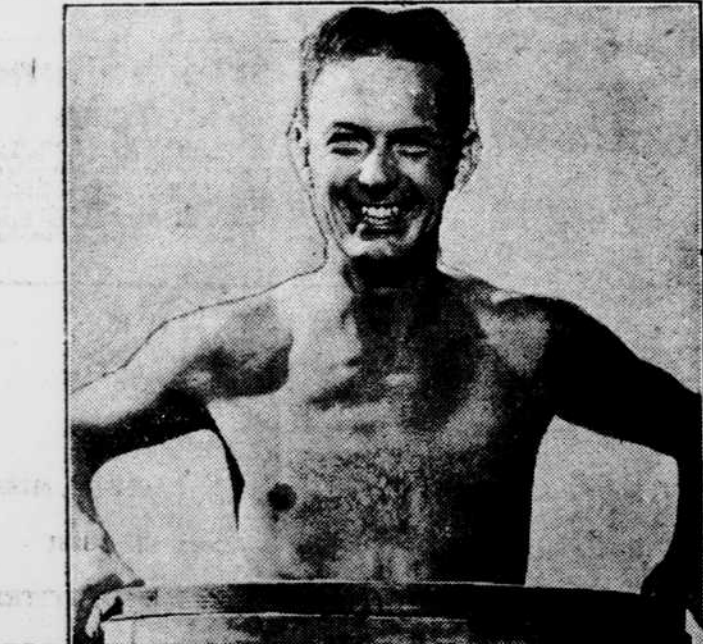
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